

URGENT TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 14704

Rec'd: APRIL 22, 1959

7:44 PM

FROM: LONDON

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 5551, APRIL 23, 1 AM

SENT DEPARTMENT 5551; REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 399, MOSCOW 258, PARIS 892, BERLIN 153

PARIS PASS USRO

DEPARTMENT PASS DEFENSE

FROM HILLENBRAND

1. AT APRIL 22 SESSION, WORKING GROUP APPROVED TACTICS PAPER, TOGETHER WITH ANNEXES ON POLISH-CZECH AND GERMAN PARTICIPATION. AS PRESENTLY PLANNED, HILLENBRAND WILL BRING STENCIL OF PAPER TO DEPARTMENT APRIL 24 AND COPIES WILL BE POUCHED OTHER ADDRESSEES FROM HERE.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPTTEL 9333, WE PRESSED FOR AGREEMENT TO U.S. POSITIONS ON PUBLICITY AND TABLING OF STAGED PLAN, AND DISCUSSION OF BERLIN ONLY AFTER FULL EXPLORATION AND FINAL DISPOSITION WITH SOVIETS OF PLAN. SINCE ALL OTHER DELS OPPOSED THESE POSITIONS AND SINCE ALL FELT INCLUDING U.S. LANGUAGE IN BRACKETS INAPPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF NATURE OF TACTICS PAPER (WHICH FOR MOST PART DESCRIBES TACTICAL PROBLEMS IN TERMS OF ALTERNATIVES ON WHICH MINISTERS' DECISIONS REQUIRED), WE STATED U.S. POSITIONS FOR THE RECORD AND RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM OTHER DELS THAT THEY WOULD BRIEF MINISTERS ACCORDINGLY IN PREPARATION FOR APRIL 9 MEETING. WE SHALL, OF COURSE, TAKE FURTHER PRECAUTION OF ENSURING THAT TACTICAL ISSUES WILL BE SO SET FORTH IN COVEC REPORT AS NOT TO PREJUDICE U.S. POSITIONS POINTS MENTIONED REFTTEL.

3. DISCUSSION OF FINAL DRAFT BROUGHT OUT FOLLOWING INDICATIONS

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NND 887404

By

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-2- 5551, APRIL 23, 1 AM FROM LONDON

INDICATIONS OF NATIONAL POSITIONS:

- (A) BOTH GERMANS AND FRENCH FAVOR INCLUSION OF STATEMENT OF PEACE TREATY PRINCIPLES IN STAGE FOUR PRESUMABLY BECAUSE, IN VIEW OF INDISSOLUBILITY OF PACKAGE, THEY WOULD HOPE THEREBY TO AVOID ANY DISCUSSION OF PEACE TREATY (WE SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSED LANGUAGE IN TACTICS PAPER WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE FURTHER CONSIDERATION THIS ISSUE).
- (B) GERMANS EXPRESSED CONCERN AT POSSIBILITY OF PRIVATE, BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SOVS AND WESTERN POWERS, UNDERLINING INHERENT RISK IN THIS APPROACH OF ACCOMMODATING SOV OBJECTIVE OF SPLITTING WESTERN UNITY. UK COMMENTED THAT IF CONFERENCE COMPOSITION GOES BEYOND FOUR POWERS, ONLY PRIVATE MEETINGS POSSIBLE WOULD BE BETWEEN SOVS AND WESTERN FOREIGN MINISTER AS AGREED SPOKESMAN OF WEST ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. WE ABSTAINED FROM DEBATE EXCEPT TO ENSURE INCLUSION OF NEUTRAL LANGUAGE RE RESTRICTED SESSIONS.
- (C) GERMANS INSISTED ON DELETION OF SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO EASTERN FRONTIERS AT APPROPRIATE POINT IN CONFERENCE WHICH FRENCH HAD SUGGESTED. IT APPEARS THAT FEDREP UNWILLING TO GO BEYOND GENERAL STATEMENT RE RENUNCIATION OF FORCE WITH REGARD TO EASTERN NEIGHBORS.

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